THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF FOOD AND CIVIL SUPPLIES (SHRi D. L. BAITHA): (a) and (c) The allocation of rice to various States/Union Territories was reviewed in February, 1989 keeping in view overall availability of stocks in the Central Pool relative needs of various States, improved market availability on arrival of new rice crop and the fact that the supply to Public Distribution System is only supplemental in nature. As **a** result of the review, the rice quota of most States, including Kerala was reduced uniformly by 20 per cent.

(b) A statement showing demand and allotment of rice to Kerala from January, 1988 to February. 1989 is

Statement

Statement Indicating Demand and Allotment of rice to Kerala from January, 1988 to February, 1989 for PDS.

(in 000' tonnes)

Month	Demand	Allot-ment
1988 January	200.0	145.0*
February	200.0	135.0
March	200.0	125.0
April	200.0	125.0
May	200.0	125.0
June	200.0	125.0
July	200.0	125.0
August	200.0	145.0
September	200.0	125.0
October	200.0	125.0
November	200.0	125.0
December	200.0	125.0
1989		
January	200.0	125.0
February	200.0	100.0

* Includes 20,000 tonnes of rice as special allocation

Conference of Chiefs of Zila Pari-shads and Panchayats etc.

465. SHRI N. E. BALARAM:

SHRI CHATURANAN MISHRA:

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that a conference of about 8000 Chiefs of Zila Parishads, Panchayat. Samithis and Village Panchayats from twelve Northern and Western States was convened in New Delhi recently;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) what was the purpose of the conference and the outcome thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT ?N THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI JANAR DHAN POOJARI); (a) and (b) A Conference of Chairman of Zila Pari shad, Panchayat Samities, village Panchayats and Chairmen of Munici pal Committees Town Area Committe es of the Northern and Western Stat es was organised in New Delhi from 27th to 30th January, 1989. This was attended by about 6,000 dele gates of 11 States/UT's consisting of Bihar, Uttar Pradesh, Madhya Pra desh, Himachal Pradesh, Haryana, Punjab, Rajasthan, Maharashtra, Gujarat and Goa and Union Territ ory of Delhi.

(c) The object of the Conference was to have grass-root level consultation with Panchayati Raj bodies or similar self-government structure available at district, block and village levels on issues like structure of Panchayati Raj or self-government district planning, decentralised planning and execution of development prog-rammes. The views expressed by delegates on various issues would be useful in arriving at a National consensus on revitalisation of panchayati raj system.